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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

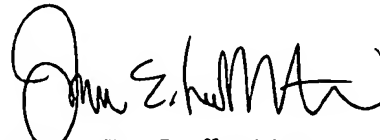
The non-elected claims 14-29 and 37-48 are hereby canceled.

Informalities such as those noted in Section 3 of the office action do not appear in the copy of the Preliminary Amendment in the undersigned's file, nor on the electronic version thereof. Accordingly, it is submitted that no amendments are necessary.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the examiner is requested to telephone the under signed at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: August 30, 2004

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